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**File Code:** 6300/5100

**Route To:** 

Subject: VIPR Migration and Roll-over of Existing Agreements

To: Regional Foresters

VIPR has been successfully implemented and the latest release (VIPR 1.1) which includes functionality to roll-over existing preseason incident agreements (I-BPAs) has been moved to production. The migration <u>decision tree</u> outlines which agreements, by equipment category, are affected.

In an effort to mitigate impacts to the system and ensure adequate support to users, the regions' use of VIPR 1.1 will be staggered. The phase-in plan with approximate start dates is:

- Regions 3, 4, and 6 Wave 1 (April 2)
- Regions 1, 5, and 8 Wave 2 (April 14)
- Regions 2 and 9 Wave 3 (April 27)

A Sametime demonstration of VIPR 1.1 functionality was provided to regional liaisons and VIPR implementation coordinators on March 4. This demonstration included a detailed discussion of the process for roll-over modifications to existing agreements in preparation for this season. The roll-over process allows the vendor to update their pricing as well as make any necessary changes to their company or equipment data (e.g., replacements/withdrawals).

In addition, the Contracting Officer (CO) can make any necessary updates to the agreements, including any actions to ensure that agreements reflect standards set forth in national templates. Any departure from national templates at the time regions initially solicited their I-BPAs must now be modified to comply with national requirements. The modification must clearly specify these changes to the vendor.

The <u>Contracting Officer Quick Reference Guide</u> has been updated and provides detailed information on the roll-over process. A wealth of other information is also available to assist CO's in the use of VIPR including <u>Frequently Asked Questions</u> (FAQs) and <u>VIPR Tips</u>. We have also reinstituted bi-weekly calls with the regional liaisons, in conjunction with the VIPR Implementation Team calls, to ensure that communication avenues are available throughout the spring as regions execute the roll-over process.

The <u>Vendor User Guides</u> have also been updated to provide specific instructions to vendors regarding their role in the roll-over process. In addition, interactive <u>Vendor Tutorials</u> are now available to assist vendors in using the VIPR Vendor Solution and <u>Frequently Asked Questions</u> (FAQs) specific to vendors are being maintained.





I want to thank you and your staff for your continued support of VIPR. We appreciate the suggestions that have been provided in the <u>VIPR Suggestion Box</u>; the feedback has been very encouraging. If you have any questions, please send them to <u>VIPR@fs.fed.us</u>.

/s/ Ronald E. Hooper RONALD E. HOOPER Director, Acquisition Management

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